

BIOGRAPHY OF DENISE BARGE

Denise Barge has been working in financial services for over 20 years. She has worked in retail operations, consumer lending, commercial lending, community development and numerous women's organizations and inner city agencies. This April will mark the eighth year that Barge will have held the position of executive director of the Minority Investment Development Corporation and the Rhode Island Coalition for Minority Investment.

Barge has worked to establish and develop partnerships within the Rhode Island community which will help to serve disadvantaged urban small businesses, primarily in low income areas. Last June marked the first Emerging Women in Business Conference, which Barge co-chaired. The conference was created in line with the vision of the Woman's Summit held at Bryant University.

Under Barge's leadership, the first conference drew over 160 participants and had over 22 corporate sponsors and several non-profit sponsors as well. Nadine Thompson of Warm Spirit Inc. was the keynote speaker. A custom resource fair was available for women to inquire about business support and information. Materials for the conference were presented in both English and Spanish. One of the workshops was held exclusively in Spanish.

Barge has developed an extensive network in the community. She serves as a board member on several boards, including: Greater Providence Chamber of Commerce and she is serving as the commissioner of the Rhode Island Housing and Mortgage Finance Corporation. She has also worked in

collaboration with the Urban League of RI, RI Black Heritage Society and many other non-profit organizations in the state.

CAROL MALYSZ BIOGRAPHY

Carol Malysz has an MBA in Entrepreneurship from Babson College and a diverse professional background. Malysz has held positions in business development and strategic marketing for business, government and non-profit organizations. In 2003, Malysz was appointed to the Rhode Island Commodores by Governor Donald Carcieri to serve as an economic development ambassador for Rhode Island.

Malysz co-chaired the first Emerging Women in Business Conference along with Denise Barge. The conference was created in line with the vision of the Women's Summit held at Bryant University. The conference under Malysz and Barge's direction drew over 160 participants and had over 22 corporate sponsors.

Currently, Malysz is the Director of the Center for Women & Enterprise, Rhode Island. The center helps to provide training, counseling, loan packaging assistance and mentoring services to current and potential women entrepreneurs. Since 2000, the center has provided more than 5,550 women with mentoring, training and counseling. Also, over 127 women entrepreneurs have received \$16 million in bank financing through the Center for Woman & Enterprise's loan program.

In 2001, Malysz received the Rhode Island Small Business Administration "Women in Business Advocate" award. In 2005, she became the President and

founder of the Executive Women's Golf Association's Rhode Island Chapter. In 2006, Malysz was named the Canon Businesswoman of the Year